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USSR

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"C" TO REPORT ON VARIOUS AGENTS (1948)

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No: 104

5th June 1948

To KEM[1].

With reference to No. 40 and No. 41[a]:

1. At the next meeting with "C[K]"[ii] please ascertain:
 - (a) What positions "SISTER[SESTRA]"[iii] and "BEN[BEN]"[iv] occupy at present and whether they can be used for our work?
 - (b) [2 groups unrecovered] "GIRLFRIEND[PODRUGA]"[v] with the work and the possibility of using her in the future.
 - (c) Where are "FERRO"[vi] and "ARTISTE[ARTIST]"[vii] living?
 - (d) Is it advisable to bring "FERRO" into our work in view of the fact that his mother is well known in the Commonwealth[SOYUZ][viii] as an influential ACADEMICIAN[AKADEMIK][ix]?
 - (e) How is it proposed to organise liaison between "F."[x] and "MASTER-CRAFTSMAN[MASTER]"[xi] in view of the fact that they live in different towns?
 - (f) Will "C[K]" release "ARTISTE" from secretarial work if he is suitable for us?

DISTRIBUTION:

[Continued overleaf]

2. Hurry up with getting detailed character reports [KHARAKTERISTIKI] on all candidates recommended by "C[K]". Ascertain what experience of working with people under illegal conditions

[59 groups unrecoverable]

No. 1823
4th June

IVANOV[xii]

Note: [a] Not available.

Comments: [i] EPIN: Semen Ivanovich MAKAROV, at the Soviet Legation/Embassy in CANBERRA from April 1943 to June 1949.

[ii] C[K]: Presumably CLAUDE[ELOD], i.e. Walter Seddon CLAYTON.

[iii] SISTER: Frances BURNIE.

[iv] BEN: Alfred HUGHES.

[v] GIRLFRIEND: Unidentified covername. Also occurs in MOSCOW's No. 92 of 16th May 1948 (3/NBF/T446).

[vi] FERRO: Richard Prichard THROSSSEL, member of the Australian Department of External Affairs.

[vii] ARTISTE: Herbert William TATTERSKILL.

[viii] Commonwealth: The Russian for "Commonwealth of Australia" is "AVSTRALIJSKIY SOYUZ" (literally "Australian Union"). In the context of this message "SOYUZ" evidently refers to the Commonwealth of Australia and not to the Soviet Union - the word is repeated presumably to avoid any ambiguity. This interpretation is strengthened by the reference to THROSSSEL's mother in CANBERRA's No. 363 of 30th September 1945 (3/NBF/T228).

[ix] ACADEMICIAN: Probably a member of the Communist Party.

[x] "P.": Presumably "FERRO".

[xi] MASTER-CRAFTSMAN: Wilbur CHRISTIANSON.

[xii] IVANOV: Lt. Gen. Petr Vasil'evich FEDOTOV.

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